GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5945
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2001
OLD STOCK OF FOODGRAINS IN GODOWNS
JASWANT SINGH YADAV;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken note of a World Bank Report of June, 2000 whichreveals that half of the stock with FCI is at least two years old, 30 percent between two and four years old and some stock are as old as 16 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not clearing old stock of FCI on a regular and priority basis; and

(d) the fresh steps taken/proposed to dispose off old stock of foodgrains?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a) & (b): It is not true to say that FCI was having half of the stock atleast two yearsold, 30% between two and four years etc. The exact position as on 30.6.2000 is given below:

(Figs. In M.T.)

Commodity	Total stock	Upto 2 Years old	%age	2 to 4 years old	%age	More than 4 years old	%age
Wheat	11216884	9858770	87.89	1292540	11.52	65574	0.59
Rice	12878448	12338362	95.80	379486	2.95	160600	1.25

(c): FCI is required to follow the principle of First-in First-out (FIFO) while issuing the stocks of foodgrainsBut, FCI is unable to follow this principle strictly. Due to the preference of local consumers, the State Governments do not accept/lift older stocks offoodgrains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and various other schemes of the Government of India and insist on issue of fresh stocks.

(d): The procedure for disposal of old stocks of foodgrains has been streamlined, and powers have been delegated to the High Level Committee of FCI, as well as Zonal Managers, to approve the tenders for sale of such stocks.